

(a) whether Government have received any scheme for construction of air-strip at Umāria to attract foreign tourists at National Park Bandhavgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any action in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, by when the sanction is expected to be accorded for the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Lease of Aircrafts

544. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 9th February, 2001 captioned "Indian Airlines Plan for Boeing 737-200s lease vanishes into thin air";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether one of the Boeing 737-200s supposedly offered on lease to I.A. has become older than the stipulated age; and

(e) the details of the response to IA's world wide press tender issued in March, 2000 for lease of A-320s and 737-300 or 400 aircrafts lease?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines Ltd. executed Letters of Intent (L.O.I.) for lease of five B-737-200 and two A-320 aircraft in September, 2000. As per L.O.I., the delivery of B-737-200 aircraft were to begin from 3rd week of November, 2000 and that of Airbus 320 from April, 2001. The final contract for lease of these B-737-200

[27 February, 2001] RAJYA SABHA

aircraft were executed on 15th December, 2000. As per the contract the aircraft were to be delivered from last week of December, 2000 till last week of January, 2001.

The deliveries of B-737-200 aircraft, however, got delayed due to the problems at the end of lessor. The lessors have now, informed Indian Airlines that the problems at their end have been sorted out and the first aircraft is expected to be delivered in the near future.

(d) Yes, Sir. An alternative younger aircraft in place of the older aircraft has been offered.

(e) In response to the tender issued in March, 2000 for lease of A-320 and B-737-300/400 aircraft, only one offer was received which did not meet the tender terms.

Land dispute cases pending with AAI

[†]545. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cases of land dispute are lying pending with the Airports Authority of India;

(b) if so, the area-wise details thereof as on 1st January, 2001;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to resolve these disputes with the concerned parties; and

(d) whether it has been decided to constitute a particular Department for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details in this regard are being collected.

(c) All land dispute cases which are pending in various Law Courts are being pursued vigorously by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for final settlement. The entire task is a time consuming procedure as it involves private parties and State Government/Local Bodies.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.